

Goldwater Asks Cuban Fiasco Quiz

BY WILLIAM MOORE

(Chicago Tribune Press Service)

Washington, Jan. 23—Sen. Barry Goldwater (R., Ariz.) introduced a resolution today calling for an investigation by the Senate armed services committee of the Bay of Pigs invasion, which he branded one of the nation's "most inglorious adventures."

At the same time, Sen. Wayne Morse (D., Ore.) ordered an immediate Senate subcommittee inquiry into reports of an extensive new Russian military build-up in Cuba. Morse said he is asking the state department to provide a quick briefing for the Senate Latin American affairs subcommittee, of which he is chairman.

Goldwater asserted in a Senate speech that the Cuba fiasco in April of 1961 was a "disgraceful chapter in the history of the Kennedy administration." He said there are indications that the newspaper interviews in which Atty. Gen. Robert F. Kennedy gave his version of the invasion were arranged for one purpose—to whitewash the administration.

Morse Gets into Picture

Altho administration leaders in the Senate had previously heard two days of attacks upon the attorney general's story by Goldwater without rising to defend Kennedy, Morse moved into the seat of Sen. Mike Mansfield (Mont.), the Senate Democratic floor leader, while Goldwater was speaking.

Morse said that as chairman of the Senate foreign relations subcommittee on Latin America he invited all members of the Senate to read the secret testimony on the invasion taken by the subcommittee before deciding whether they wished to speak about the Bay of Pigs.

Goldwater retorted that he had read the testimony and that it was the "most inconclusive" he had ever read. The testimony was given by Secretary of State Dean Rusk, Allen Dulles, who was director of the central intelligence agency at the time of the invasion, and high military officials.

Full Disclosure Mandatory

Moreover, Goldwater said, he did not bring up the matter as a partisan issue. It was brought up by the attorney general, he said, in a manner that makes full disclosure of what happened mandatory.

Goldwater said it is "an insult to the intelligence of every concerned American" for the President's brother to give part of the press "an informal, disjointed account" of the invasion.

For 21 months, Goldwater said, the people have been led to believe that the United States promised air cover and naval support to the invading Cubans, and there had been no denial of this by the President or the attorney general until the interviews were published Monday.

In the interviews, Atty. Gen. Kennedy was quoted as saying no United States air support had been promised or planned.

Never a True Account

"It is true," Goldwater said, "that President Kennedy manfully accepted all the blame for the Bay of Pigs fiasco. But it is also true that he never gave the American people a true account of what had been planned and what actually occurred."

"Now after all this time we get from the attorney general an account which defies belief and runs counter to everything the American people had been led to believe, and contradicts the understanding of almost every man engaged in the abortive attempt."

Goldwater said Atty. Gen. Kennedy said in the interviews that the invasion plan—without provision for air cover—had the approval of the military joint chiefs of staff, the CIA and the President.

"Does he ask us to believe," Goldwater demanded, "that seasoned military men—such as the joint chiefs of staff—ever seriously considered that an invasion force of 1,500 men could succeed in establishing a beachhead in Cuba and moving on to join with guerrilla forces to liberate the island from the grip of a fully armed communist dictator?"

The suggestion defies belief, Goldwater said, because any military man with "10 minutes of experience" knows that air cover and naval support are essential to such a landing.

"In effect," Goldwater said, "what the attorney general has done in his interesting and highly questionable account of the Bay of Pigs has cast grave doubts on the ability of the military establishments."

"If we take as fact his statement that no air cover was planned and then add to that the number of mistakes he listed as reasons for the invasion's failure, then we have to assume that the military men who approved the plans were entirely lacking in experience as well as judgment."